

TALK IT OVER

Easter

The Resurrection Changes Everything

Mark Hardacre

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Icebreaker: What is one day in your life that changed everything for you?

Resurrection Morning

Matthew 28:1-10 (NLT) Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying. And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you." The women ran quickly from the tomb. They were very frightened but also filled with great joy, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel's message. And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, grasped his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there."

Because Jesus is Alive...

1. We can celebrate victory over death

1 Corinthians 15:55-57 (NLT) O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. We can reconnect with God

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NLT) God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

3. We can live with resurrection power

Ephesians 1:19-20 (NLT) I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.

Romans 10:9-10 (NLT) If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.

Prayer of Salvation:

God, I confess that I am a sinner and in need of a Savior.
I believe that Jesus came to earth pay the penalty for sin.
I believe that He died in my place, for my sin, on the cross.
I believe that Jesus conquered death through His resurrection.
I accept the gift of forgiveness purchased by Jesus.
I receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, filling me with resurrection power.
I look forward to spending all of eternity with you.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

Discussion Questions

1. Do you believe Jesus came back to life on Sunday? Why or why not?
2. When you think about death, are you fearful, uncertain, or unsure about what happens to you in that moment?
3. What are some ways that you try to connect to God by DO-ing things?
4. Why do you think that so many people believe that "being a good person" is what makes them right with God?
5. When you consider that a relationship with God is all about what Jesus has DONE, how does that make you feel?
6. What is an area of your life that needs some resurrection power today?
7. Do you believe that Jesus came to this world, lived a perfect life, died on a cross, and rose from the dead?
8. Have you openly declared your belief to God in prayer, asking to receive forgiveness for you sins?